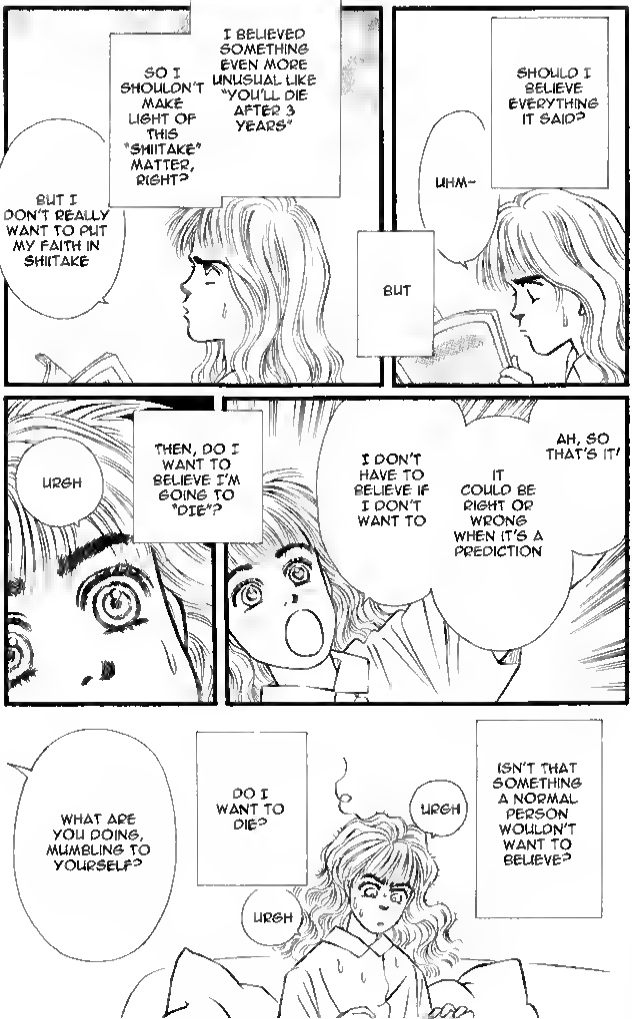
Chapter 5: A miserable relationship

DO YOU WANT FRIENDS?
DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS?
DO YOU LOVE FRIENDS?

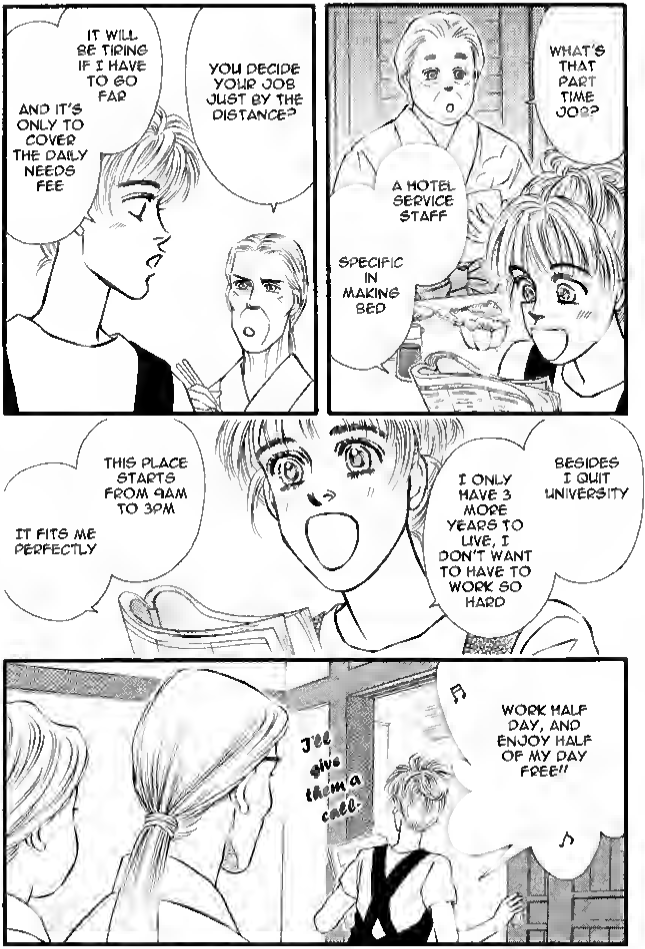
THIS MAGAZINE'S HOROSCOPE CORNER IS ALWAYS TRUE
MONTHLY HOROSCOPE
GENERAL
RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS BASICALLY GOOD. MIGHT GET INTO A LITTLE TROUBLE
LOVE
YOU'LL MEET YOUR ROMANTIC LOVER
OUR SUGGESTION FOR LUCK
YOUR LUCK DEPENDS ON SMALL OBJECTS
LUCKY ITEM
SHIITAKE
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
SHIITAKE ?

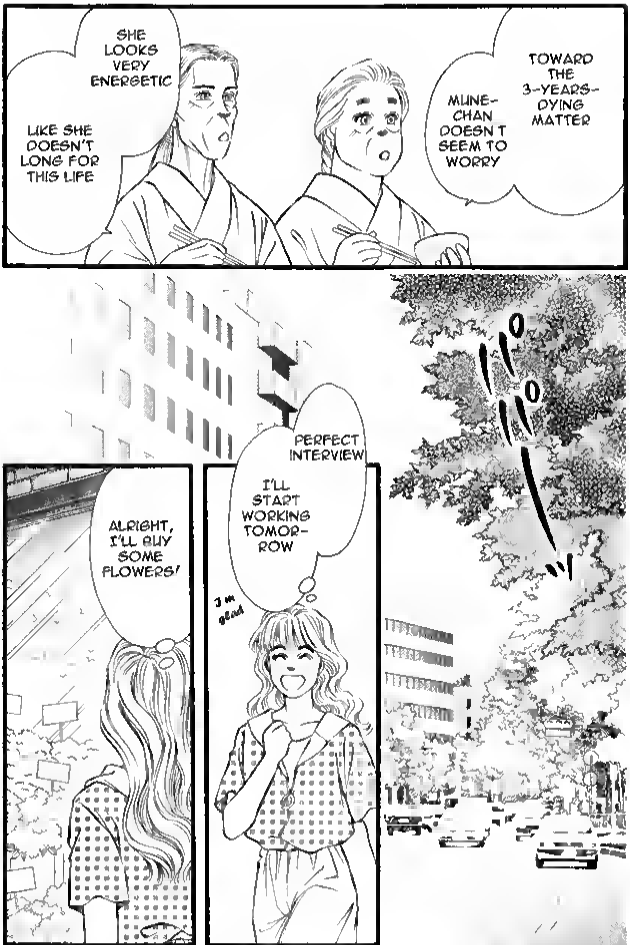
IF I BRING SHIITAKE WITH ME, I'LL BE LUCKY
IS THAT IT——
MAYBE FOR SAFE-TY
THE GENERAL AND LOVE AREN'T ANYTHING UNUSUAL
BUT WHAT'S WITH THE "LUCKY ITEM"?
LET'S IMAGINE IF I'M AN OFFICE LADY
EVERYDAY I PUT A SHIITAKE IN MY PURSE BEFORE GOING TO WORK
WILL THAT HELP ME AVOID ANY UNFORTU-NATE THINGS?
THAT MIGHT BE TRUE
IF YOU USE COLORED NUMBER THEN THE PROTECTED AREA IS EVEN WIDER
UWAH, POOR THEM
THEIR LUCKY ITEM IS A SAW
FOR EXAMPLE IF YOUR LUCKY ITEM IS PLANETARIUM OR LIBRARY
THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO GO BACK AND FORTH FOR YOUR LUCK?


SHOULD I BELIEVE EVERYTHING IT SAID?
UHM-
BUT
I BELIEVED SOMETHING EVEN MORE UNUSUAL LIKE "YOU'LL DIE AFTER 3 YEARS"
SO I SHOULDN'T MAKE LIGHT OF THIS "SHIITAKE" MATTER, RIGHT?
BUT I DON'T REALLY WANT TO PUT MY FAITH IN SHIITAKE
AH, SO THAT'S IT!
IT COULD BE RIGHT OR WRONG WHEN IT'S A PREDICTION
I DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IF I DON'T WANT TO
THEN, DO I WANT TO BELIEVE I'M GOING TO "DIE"?
URGH
ISN'T THAT SOMETHING A NORMAL PERSON WOULDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE?
URGH
DO I WANT TO DIE?
URGH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MUMBLING TO YOURSELF?

ばさばさ
I'M FINDING A PART TIME JOB
BUT I HAVEN'T FOUND ONE YET
IF I WAS CAUGHT READING THE HOROSCOPE IN THE MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER
I WOULD GET EMBARRASS
AH, JUNZOU-SAN
WELCOME HOME
JUST NOW WHAT WAS YOU LOOKING AT?
I COOKED DINNER DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
WHY IS YOUR FACE BECOMING RED?
LIKE SOMEONE SUSPICIOUS ME OF EATING RED BEAN PORRIDGE
I WOULD FEEL EMBARRASS
PROBABLY
I'M AFRAID SOMEONE MIGHT THINK OF ME THAT WAY...

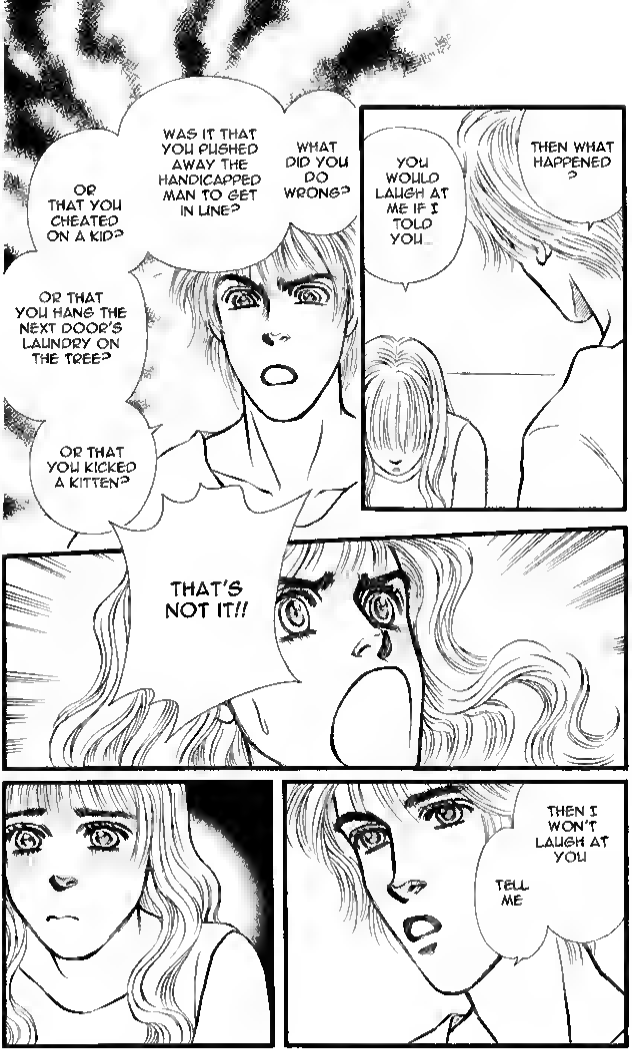
SOMEONE, LIKE WHO
JUUZOU, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LAUN-DRY
AH- THIS ONLY 5 MINUTES FROM OUR HOUSE!
LET'S CHOOSE THIS!


IT WILL BE TIRING IF I HAVE TO GO FAR
AND IT'S ONLY TO COVER THE DAILY NEEDS FEE
YOU DECIDE YOUR JOB JUST BY THE DISTANCE?
WHAT'S THAT PART TIME JOB?
A HOTEL SERVICE STAFF
SPECIFIC IN MAKING BED
THIS PLACE STARTS FROM 9AM TO 3PM
IT FITS ME PERFECTLY
I ONLY HAVE 3 MORE YEARS TO LIVE, I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO WORK SO HARD
BESIDES I QUIT UNIVERSITY
I'll give them a call.
♫
WORK HALF DAY, AND ENJOY HALF OF MY DAY FREE!!
♪

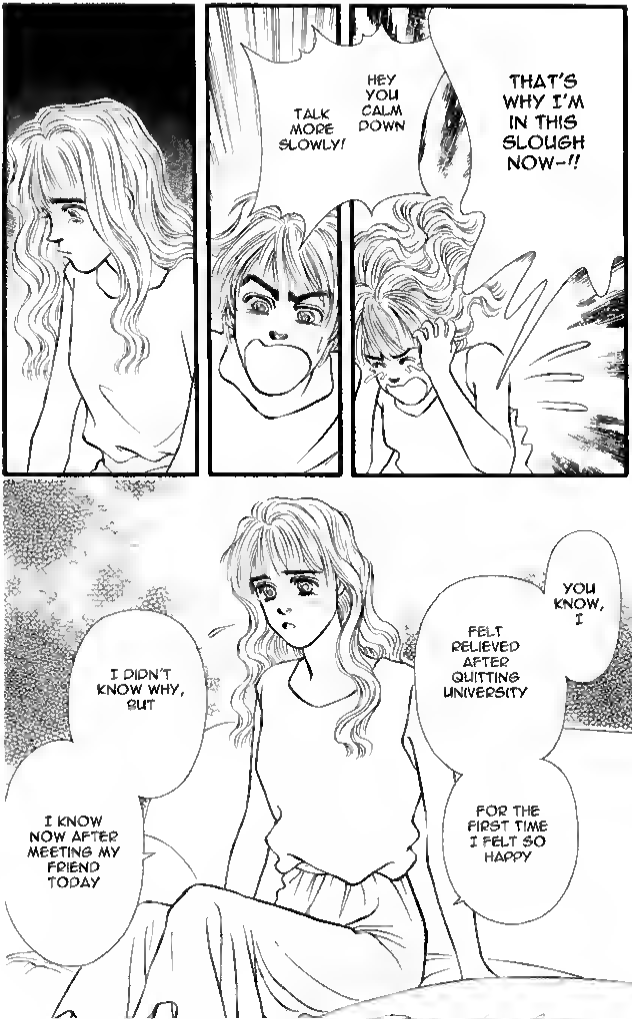

SHE LOOKS VERY ENERGETIC
LIKE SHE DOESN'T LONG FOR THIS LIFE
MUNE-CHAN DOESN'T SEEM TO WORRY
TOWARD THE 3-YEARS-DYING MATTER
PERFECT INTERVIEW
I'LL START WORKING TOMOR-ROW
I'm glad
ALRIGHT, I'LL BUY SOME FLOWERS!

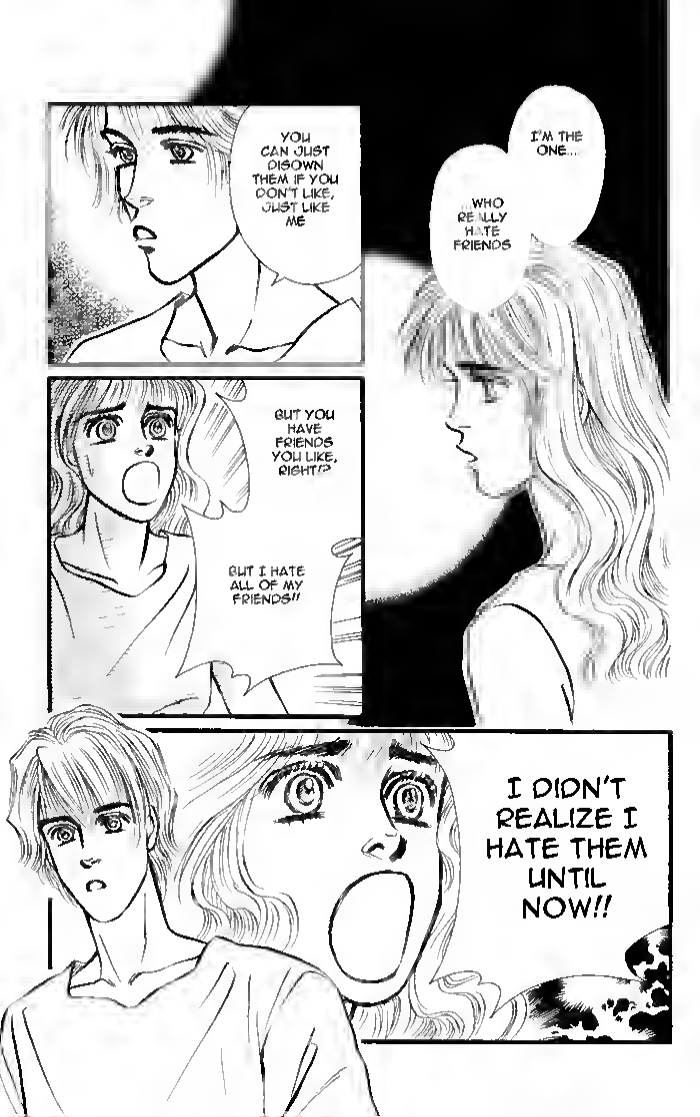
LONG TIME NO SEE!
ARE YOU DOING WELL!?
OH MY!? ISN'T THAT NEMUKO!
EVERYONE WAS SO WORRIED WHEN WE HEARD YOU QUIT UNIVERSITY
WHERE DO YOU LIVE NOW?
GIVE ME YOUR ADDRESS, I'LL COME VISIT!

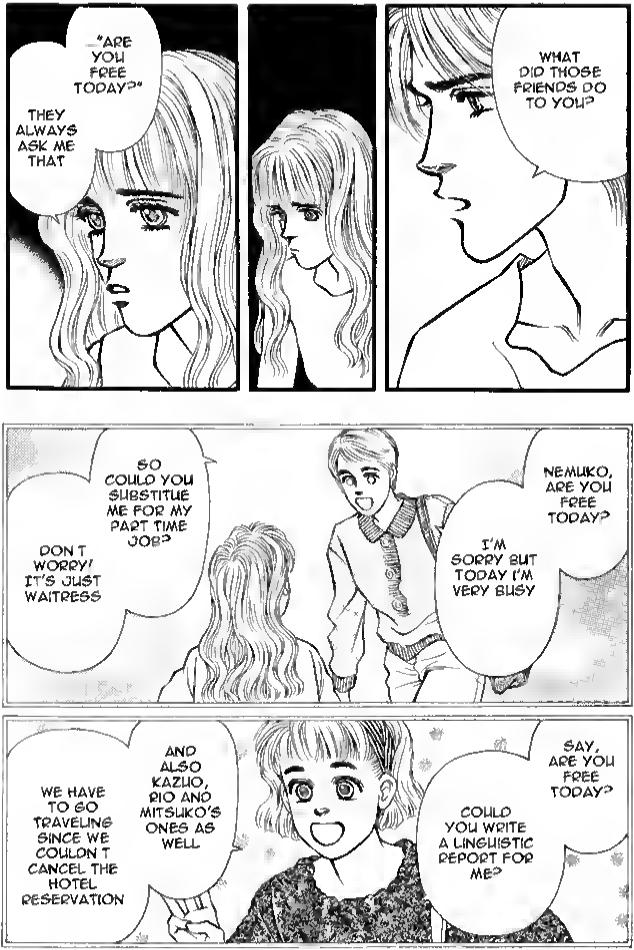
OI-
I'M BACK!
SHE WAS ENER-GETIC THIS MORNING WASN'T SHE?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?
BUT AFTER COMING BACK FROM THE INTERVIEW, AHH—
どよ～ん
DEPRESS
HEY, YOU WASN'T ACCEPTED TO THE PART TIME JOB?
I'LL START TOMOR-ROW—


WHAT DID YOU DO WRONG?
WAS IT THAT YOU PUSHED AWAY THE HANDICAPPED MAN TO GET IN LINE?
OR THAT YOU CHEATED ON A KID?
OR THAT YOU HANG THE NEXT DOOR'S LAUNDRY ON THE TREE?
OR THAT YOU KICKED A KITTEN?
THAT'S NOT IT!!
YOU WOULD LAUGH AT ME IF I TOLD YOU...
THEN WHAT HAPPENED ?
THEN I WON'T LAUGH AT YOU
TELL ME

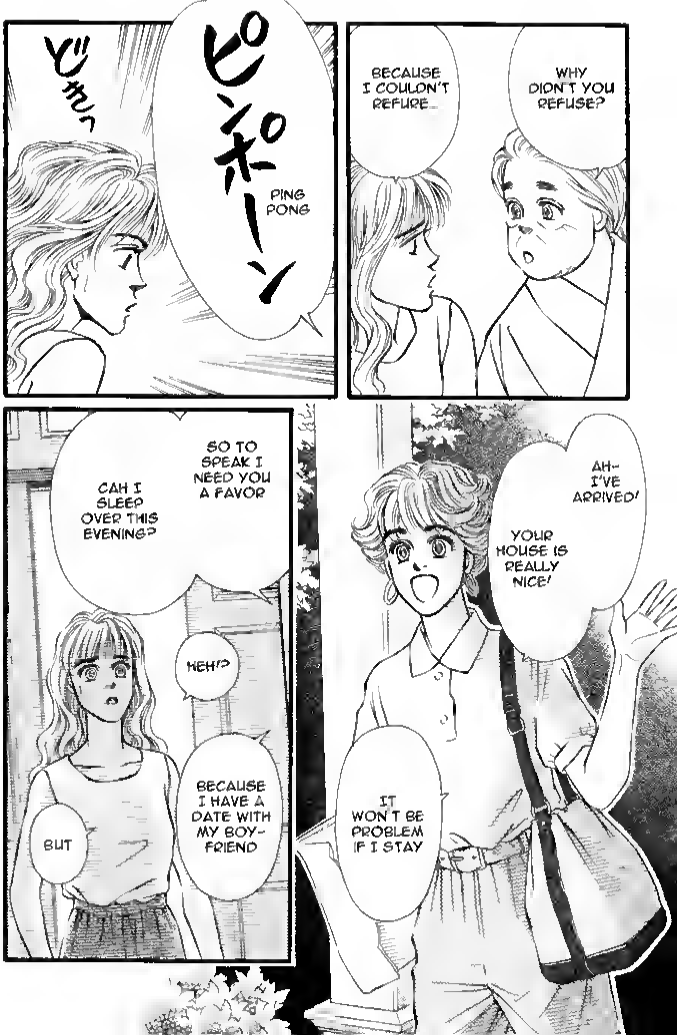
BECAUSE I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE IT TO HER!
うぁ?
SO WHAT?
I MET MY UNIVERSITY FRIEND
SHE ASKED FOR MY ADDRESS
AND I GAVE IT TO HER
HEH?
YOU KNOW
IT'S WEIRD NOT TELLING YOUR ADDRESS TO YOUR FRIENDS
SO I HAVE TO LET HER KNOW


THAT'S WHY I'M IN THIS SLOUGH NOW-!!
HEY YOU CALM DOWN
TALK MORE SLOWLY!
YOU KNOW, I
FELT RELIEVED AFTER QUITTING UNIVERSITY
FOR THE FIRST TIME I FELT SO HAPPY
I DIDN'T KNOW WHY, BUT
I KNOW NOW AFTER MEETING MY FRIEND TODAY


YOU CAN JUST DISOWN THEM IF YOU DON'T LIKE, JUST LIKE ME
I'M THE ONE... WHO REALLY HATE FRIENDS
BUT YOU HAVE FRIENDS YOU LIKE, RIGHT!?
BUT I HATE ALL OF MY FRIENDS!!
I DIDN'T REALIZE I HATE THEM UNTIL NOW!!

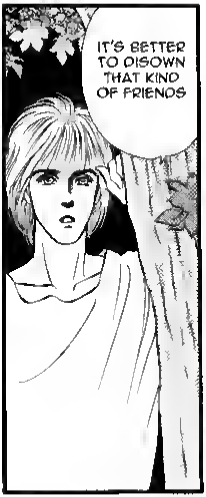

—"ARE YOU FREE TODAY?"
THEY ALWAYS ASK ME THAT
WHAT DID THOSE FRIENDS DO TO YOU?
NEMUKO, ARE YOU FREE TODAY?
I'M SORRY BUT TODAY I'M VERY BUSY
SO COULD YOU SUBSTITUE ME FOR MY PART TIME JOB?
DON'T WORRY! IT'S JUST WAITRESS
SAY, ARE YOU FREE TODAY?
COULD YOU WRITE A LINGUISTIC REPORT FOR ME?
AND ALSO KAZUO, RIO AND MITSUKO'S ONES AS WELL
WE HAVE TO GO TRAVELING SINCE WE COULDN'T CANCEL THE HOTEL RESERVATION

AREN'T YOU FREE TODAY
COULD YOU COME TO MY HOUSE AND EXPATIATE FOR ME?
MIERU IS ONLY COMFORTABLE WITH GIRLS
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? EXAM AND FRIENDS, WHICH ONE IS MORE IMPORTANT?
YOU'RE FREE TODAY, RIGHT
RECORD VIDEO FOR ME, 4 TAPES
NO, NEED 3 TIMES FASTER
AH, ALSO BUY THE TAPES FOR ME
ARE YOU FREE TODAY?
THEY CAN'T BE CALLED FRIENDS!!

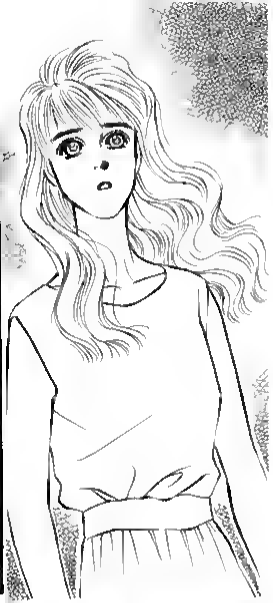

WHY DIDN'T YOU REFUSE?
BECAUSE I COULDN'T REFUSE...
ピンポーン
PING PONG
びきっ
AH- I'VE ARRIVED!
YOUR HOUSE IS REALLY NICE!
IT WON'T BE PROBLEM IF I STAY
SO TO SPEAK I NEED YOU A FAVOR
CAH I SLEEP OVER THIS EVENING?
HEH!?
BECAUSE I HAVE A DATE WITH MY BOY-FRIEND
BUT

YOU WANT TO TALK TO HER?
THEN I'LL PASS THE PHONE
AH, MOM? I'LL SLEEP OVER AT MY FRIEND'S HOUSE TONIGHT
THAT'S RIGHT, A FRIEND FROM UNIVERSITY
NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TO PASS THIS INTERVIEW
ピポ ピポ
WAIT A MINUTE!
YES, I'M LISTENING
ガシャン
YOUR DAUGHTER IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OUR DAUGHTER TO STAY AT HER BOYFRIEND'S PLACE
NO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!!
OUR DAUGHTER FEELS VERY INCONVENIENT
FROM NOW ON PLEASE STOP YOUR DAUGHTER FROM MEETING OURS

WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW! IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
SHOULDN'T YOU TELL ME THERE ARE OTHERS LIVING WITH YOU!?
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'RE THAT KIND OF PERSON!
WHAT KIND OF FRIENDS ARE YOU!!
BUT THAT...
I WAS STUPID FOR THINKING YOU'RE A FRIEND!
YOU LIED TO ME! I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE ANYMORE!!
I DISOWN YOU!!


IT'S BETTER TO DISOWN THAT KIND OF FRIENDS

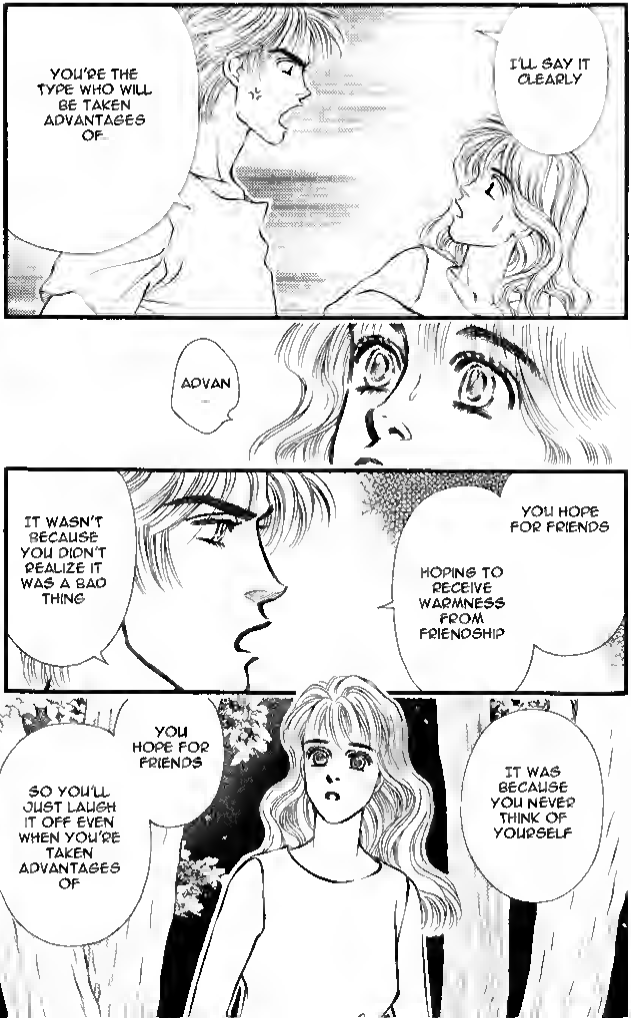
WASN'T SHE ACT SO UNREASONABLE WHEN SHE WAS REFUSED?

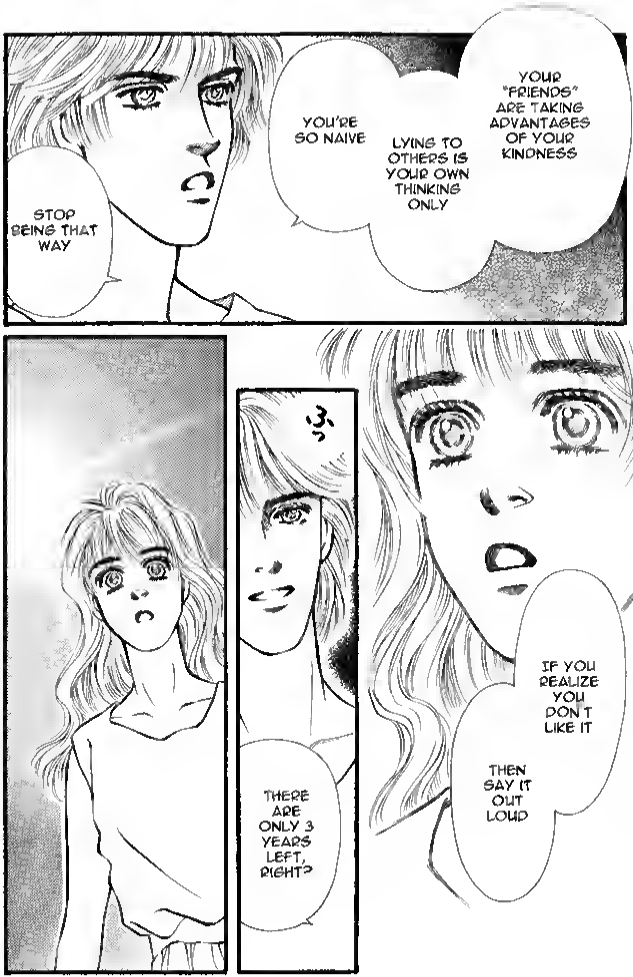


"THERE S NO WAY THEY'D TAKE ADVAN-TASE OF ME"
I USED TO THINK INNOCENTLY LIKE THAT
IT'S BECAUSE I NEVER SAY "NO"

BUT
THE TRUTH IS I LIED TO HER

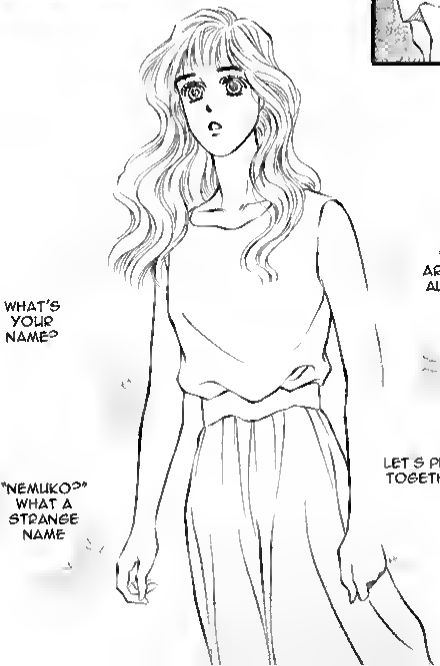
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BUT ACT LIKE I DO
LYING JUST LIKE THAT FOR A LONG TIME
ALWAYS THINK I'M THE ONE AT FAULT
SO I ALWAYS LISTEN TO OTHERS...
YOU CAN'T COMPARE THAT AS LYING
BECAUSE I HATE OTHERS, SO...
I AM THE ONE AT FAULT! RIGHT
OF COURSE YOU'LL HATE THEM!
TODAY IS THE FIRST TIME I ACTUALLY WITNESS...
YOUR STUPIDITY!!

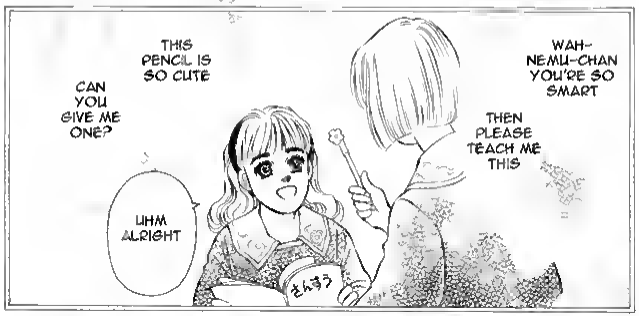

YOU'RE THE TYPE WHO WILL BE TAKEN ADVANTAGES OF...
I'LL SAY IT CLEARLY
ADVAN
IT WASN'T BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS A BAD THING
YOU HOPE FOR FRIENDS
HOPING TO RECEIVE WARMNESS FROM FRIENDSHIP
SO YOU'LL JUST LAUGH IT OFF EVEN WHEN YOU'RE TAKEN ADVANTAGES OF
YOU HOPE FOR FRIENDS
IT WAS BECAUSE YOU NEVER THINK OF YOURSELF


STOP BEING THAT WAY
YOU'RE SO NAIVE
LYING TO OTHERS IS YOUR OWN THINKING ONLY
YOUR "FRIENDS" ARE TAKING ADVANTAGES OF YOUR KINDNESS
THERE ARE ONLY 3 YEARS LEFT, RIGHT?
IF YOU REALIZE YOU DON'T LIKE IT
THEN SAY IT OUT LOUD

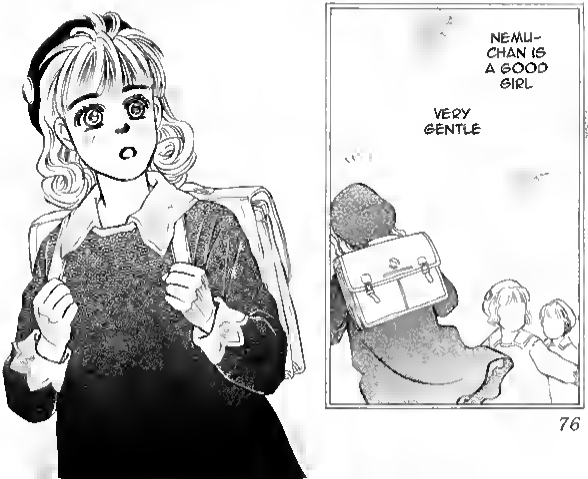
IT'S NOT THAT WANTING TO HAVE FRIENDS IS BAD
THERE'LL BE SOMEONE WHO FITS YOU

AH, THAT'S RIGHT


HEY, ARE YOU ALONE?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
LET'S PLAY TOGETHER
"NEMUKO?" WHAT A STRANGE NAME

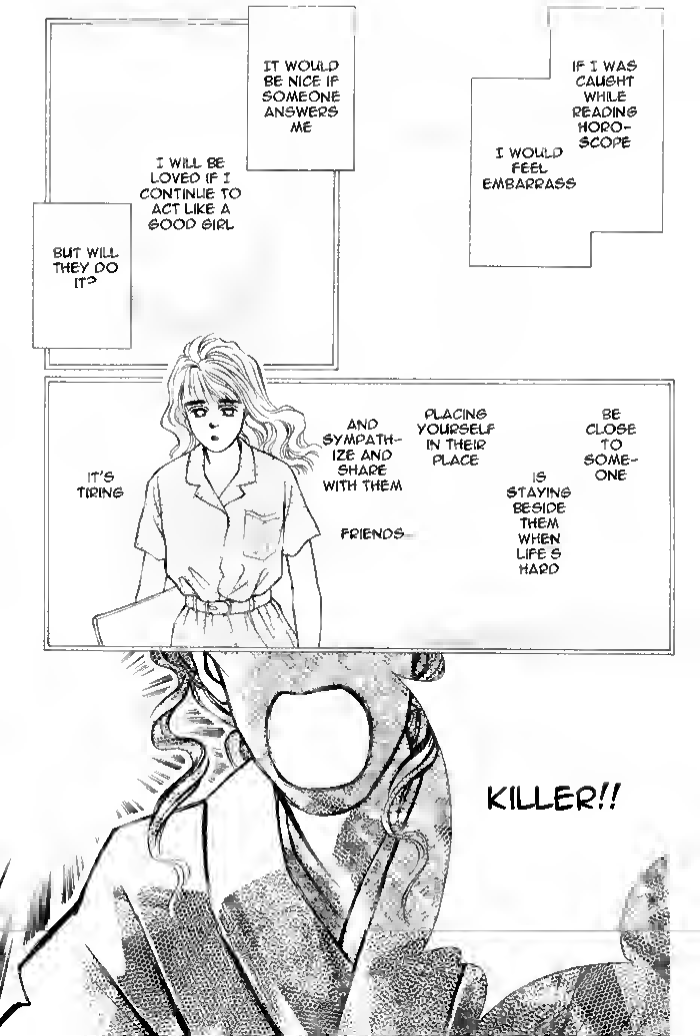

THIS PENCIL IS SO CUTE
CAN YOU GIVE ME ONE?
UHM ALRIGHT
WAH~ NEMU-CHAN YOU'RE SO SMART
THEN PLEASE TEACH ME THIS

THEN I'LL ALSO GIVE YOU ONE
BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS
BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS
IS THAT REALLY ALRIGHT?

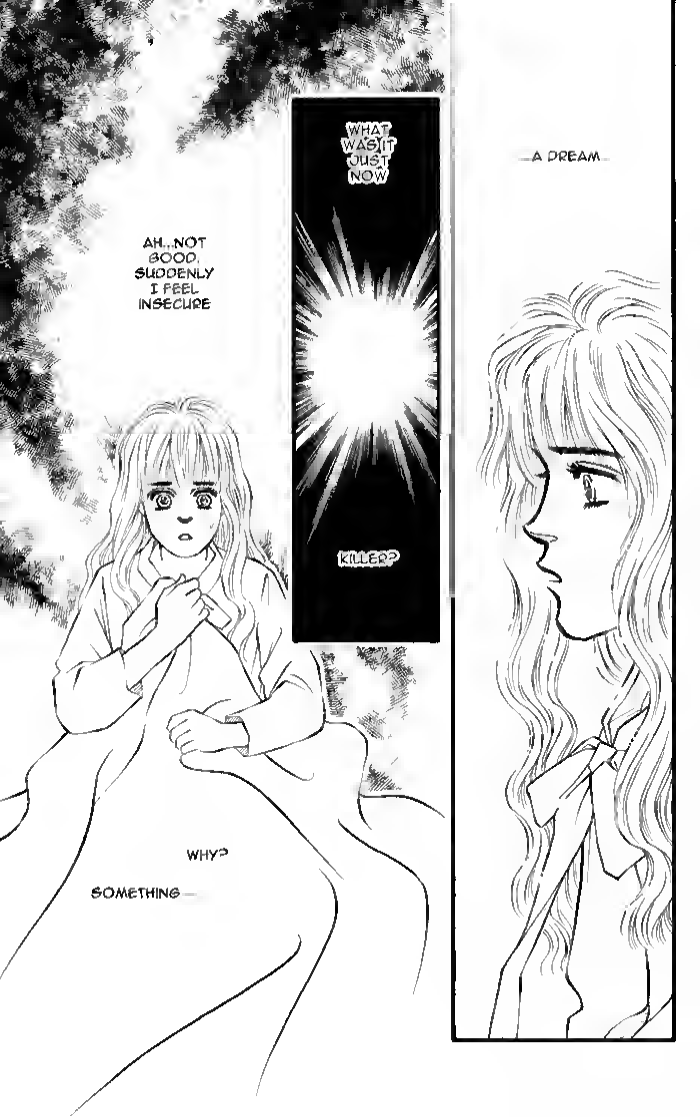

NEMU-CHAN IS A GOOD GIRL
VERY GENTLE

THE WATER IS COLD I HATE TO HAVE TO WASH THE CLOUT
THEN I'LL DO IT
I FORGOT TO DO HOMEWORK, CAN I COPY?
UHM ALRIGHT
SAY, CAN WE JOIN WITH THOSE OVER THERE?
UHM ALRIGHT
THE MORE THE MERRIER
THAT GIRL, SHE ACCEPTS EVERYONE'S REQUESTS
WITHOUT GETTING ANGRY
SHE'S AMAZING ISN'T SHE
WHEN SOMEONE PRAISES ME FOR BEING NICE OR GENTLE
SOMEHOW I FEEL EXTREMLY HAPPY

TODAY'S HORO-SCOPE
YOUR EFFORTS PAY OFF
UNEXPECTED GOOD THINGS WILL COME
UWAH- ONLY GOOD THINGS
NEMUKO LOOKS VERY HAPPY, DOESN'T SHE
BECAUSE SHE'S LUCKY TODAY!
HMPH- SHE ONLY THINKS FOR HERSELF
ISN'T THAT SOMETHING YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY!?
I DIDN'T KNOW!
THAT WASN'T IT! YOU'VE MISTAKEN!
SHE'S BAD, ONLY THINKS FOR HERSELF
SELFISH
AHH THAT'S RIGHT
SINCE THAT TIME


IT WOULD BE NICE IF SOMEONE ANSWERS ME
I WILL BE LOVED IF I CONTINUE TO ACT LIKE A GOOD GIRL
BUT WILL THEY DO IT?
IF I WAS CAUGHT WHILE READING HORO-SCOPE
I WOULD FEEL EMBARRASS
IT'S TIRING
AND SYMPATH-IZE AND SHARE WITH THEM
FRIENDS—
PLACING YOURSELF IN THEIR PLACE
IS STAYING BESIDE THEM WHEN LIFE S HARD
BE CLOSE TO SOME-ONE
KILLER!!

ガバッ


A DREAM
WHAT WAS IT JUST NOW
KILLER?
AH...NOT GOOD. SUDDENLY I FEEL INSECURE
WHY?
SOMETHING

THAT, I KNOW
I WAS TOLD LIKE THAT SOMETIMES
THAT I TIGHTENED MY BROTHER TO DEATH
THIS CHILD IS A KILLER
TO EVEN HER OWN BROTHER ...!!
SOME-THING THAT I FORGOT
SOMETHING IMPORTANT
I WAS TOLD LIKE THAT EVERY-TIME
I ALSO KNOW THAT
THAT CHILD CAN DO NOTHING!
"SYMPATH-IZE"!?
IT'S BETTER TO LET OTHERS DO IT
MUNEKO ISN'T GOOD SHE CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
EH?
WELL, YOU'RE REALLY CUTE
NEMUKO-CHAN, YOU'RE A GOOD GIRL IN THIS HOUSE

THIS KILLER!!
WHY, I...
THERE ARE A LOT OF IMPORTANT THINGS
A LOT, A LOT
THAT I FORGET!

あうう　その2

読みきり と言えば　私は 1年に 1回 100Pとかの読みきり作品を描きます。それを 2年に 1回　少し太きめの単行本にして 出します。　　これが　売れない。
たいていの人が知らない。「本屋にあるのか　ほんとに売ってんのか　見たことないぞ」と言われます。でも売ってんです。ほんとです。4年かけて 2冊出てます。『ステーション』というのと、『今でも夢に見る』という題の本です。このうち『今でも一』のほうは　買いました 読みました という人がひとりもいない。　だれか買ってください。コロッケ定食より安いです。あ　コロッケ食ってるほうが　ずっと まし？
うう　そんなこと言わないで。　よしっ、そんだらば『今でも夢に見る』の単行本を買って さらに感想のお手紙を送ってやろうじゃないかという 豪気で お慈悲なかたには　えん　お返事書いちゃう。こんなのどう？

Umi yori mo fukaku
vol 2 chapter 2
by SweetSense
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